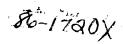
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United States General Accounting Office Washington, D.C. 20548



October 6, 1986

Deputy Dire	ctor ·	for	Administr	ation
Central Into	ellig	ence	Agency	
Washington,	D.C.	20	1505	

STAT

Dear

STAT

The U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO), an investigative agency of the Congress, is studying whether GAO should recommend that Congress increase the amount heads of agencies may waive for erroneous payments of pay and allowances. As part of this survey, we are examining several agencies' waiver experience and obtaining their views on how a change in the limitation would impact on their waiver activities. The attached questionnaire is designed to obtain your agency's views on how a change in the limitation will impact on your agency's operations.

Please complete the questionnaire and return it in the enclosed, self-addressed, postage-paid envelope within 10 days after you receive it. The questionnaire should take about 15 minutes to complete.

If you have any questions, please call Ms. Shirley Bates or Mr. Chris Farley at (202) 275-3102.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Anderson

Assistant Comptroller General General Government Programs

William J. auderson

Enclosures



U.S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

SURVEY OF FEDERAL AGENCIES ON WAIVER OF

ERRONEOUS PAYMENTS OF PAY AND ALLOWANCES

INTRODUCTION

Under current laws (5 U.S.C. 5584, 10 U.S.C. 2774, and 32 U.S.C. 716), heads of agencies have the authority to waive erroneous payments of pay and allowances not exceeding \$500. The Claims Group of the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) is studying whether GAO should recommend that Congress change the dollar limitation. We are analyzing GAO's and other agencies' waiver activities during fiscal year 1985 and gathering information from agencies on the potential impact of a change in the \$500 limitation. While we already have a summary of your agency's waiver activities for fiscal year 1985, we need additional information as well as your views on how a change in the \$500 limitation would affect your agency's waiver activities. We also would like to obtain information on the potential impact of Public Law 99-224 which amended 5 U.S.C. 5584, 10 U.S.C. 2774, and 32 U.S.C. 716 to authorize waiver of erroneous payments of travel, transportation, and relocation expenses and allowances made after December 28, 1985. In addition, we plan to visit selected agencies for more in-depth information.

The questionnaire should not take more than 15 minutes to complete. If you have any questions, please call Ms. Shirley Bates or Mr. Chris Farley on FTS 275-3102.

Please return the completed questionnaire in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope within $\underline{10}$ days of receipt. In the event the envelope is misplaced, the return address is:

U.S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE Ms. Shirley Bates Room 5041 441 G Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20548

Thank you for your help.

* * * *

person), title, address, and telephone number in case it is necessary to clarify any answers.

NAME:

TITLE:

Please provide your name (preparer or contact

TELEPHONE:

ADDRESS:

(area code)

1. Consider all the staff time necessary to analyze and process an initial request for waiver to GAO for settlement versus the staff time necessary to settle a request for waiver in your agency. In your opinion, is the staff time needed for processing a request to GAO greater, less, or about the same as the time needed for settling a request in your agency?

Staff time needed for processing a request for waiver to GAO is...

- 1. [] Much greater
- 2. [] Greater

(CHECK ONE.)

- 3. [] About the same
- 4. | | Less
- 5. [] Much less
- 6. [] No basis to judge

2.	limitat remain	opinion, do you think the \$500 ion should be changed, or should it the same? (CHECK ONE.) (6)			
	1. (Decrease \$500 limitation (Continue to Q.3.)			
	2. l	l Increase \$500 limitation			
	3. l	should be retained (Skip to Question 4.)			
	4. [I No basis to judge			
3.	3. To what amount do you think the limitation should be changed? (CHECK ONE.) (7				
	1. [l Less than \$500			
	2. l	1 \$1,000			
	3. 1	\$1,500			
	4. l	1 \$2,000			
	5. l	1 \$2,500			
	6 . (\$5,000			
	7. l	Other (specify) \$			
	8. [l No basis to judge			
4.	author throug adjust adjust regula legisl	Comptroller General were given the city to adjust the dollar limitation hithe regulatory process, an immediate ment could be made and future ments could also be made through the atory process rather than through ation.			
		determines that the current limitation to be changed, should we: 1) recommend			

legislation which would change <u>only</u> the specific amount in the current statutes, or 2) recommend that the Comptroller General be given authority to adjust the limitation through the regulatory process, as needed?

current statutes

needed

3. [] No basis to judge

I Change only the specific amount in

authority to adjust the limitation through the regulatory process, as

I Give the Comptroller General

(CHECK ONE.)

2. [

5. How many requests for waiver submitted under the authority of Public Law 99-224 has your agency received from December 28, 1985, to September 30, 1986, in each of the following categories? (ENTER AMOUNT. IF NONE, ENTER "O": 1F DATA IS NOT AVAILABLE, ENTER "N.A.")

Numt	per	of	Reques	515
for	Wa	iver	Rece	ived

1.	Travel	 (9-12)
2.	Transportation	 (13-16)
3.	Relocation Expenses	(17-20)
	Total	 (21-25

6. If you have any comments regarding any of the previous questions or any suggestions on the waiver process, please use the space provided or attach another sheet. (26)

Thank you for your help.